

Program; and requiring the Scholarship Board to take certain factors into consideration in evaluating a student's grade point average; requiring the State Scholarship Board to perform a certain review relating to the Distinguished Scholar Program, to evaluate students for participation in that Program in a certain manner, and to make a certain report to the General Assembly.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Education  
Section 18-1102  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1985 Replacement Volume and 1986 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Education

18-1102.

(a) The Board shall annually select the 300 secondary school students who have the greatest potential for academic success in higher education as determined by criteria established by the Board and offer scholarships to these students to be used at any Maryland postsecondary institution of their choice, if they meet the following qualifications:

(1) Qualify academically as follows:

(i) Have a secondary school transcript indicating an overall academic grade point average of at least 3.7 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent grade point average; [or]

(ii) Are a finalist of the National Merit Scholarship Program or the Achievement Scholarship Program administered by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; or

(iii) Have superior creative talent or skill in art, music, dance, or the theater, as determined by an audition or portfolio review process established by the Board[.];

(2) Have matriculated at a postsecondary educational institution in the State[.]; AND

(3) Qualify as a Maryland resident.

(b) At least 150 of the 300 awards shall be granted to superior academic achievers whose secondary school transcripts through the junior year indicate an overall academic grade point